

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 4-7 and 11-42 are allowed.

Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the previously-cited article “A Performance Evaluation of Texture Measures for Image Classification and Segmentation Using the Cascade-Correlation Architecture” by Augusteijn et al. (hereafter “Augusteijn”).

Claims 1-3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the previously-cited article “Myocardial Tissue Characterization by Means of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging” by Ravizza et al. (hereafter “Ravizza”).

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Augusteijn.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previously-cited article “Non-parametric Similarity Measures for Unsupervised Texture Segmentation and Image Retrieval” by Puzicha et al. (hereafter “Puzicha”) in view of Ravizza.

Also, claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previously-cited article “Texture Features for Browsing and Retrieval of Image Data” by Manjunath et al. (hereafter “Manjunath”) in view of Ravizza.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U. S. Application No. 09/676,095

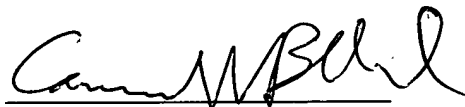
Claims 1-3, 8 and 10 are canceled by the present Amendment, thereby rendering moot the rejections of these claims.

Claim 9 is rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of claim 8, thereby placing claim 9 in form for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 23, 2004